

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 AID-05 /023 W
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O 270632Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8404
US CUSTOMS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BANGKOK 21316

STATE FOR S/NM; US CUSTOMS FOR FLETCHER POTTER,
DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM: CUSTOMS IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT

1. RECENT ENDURANCE TRIAL RUN FROM BANGKOK TO SONGKHLA PROVED
VERY USEFUL. IN GENERAL PATROL BOATS PERFORMED WELL IN UP TO
LEVEL 4 SEACONDITION ENCOUNTERED.

2. PROBLEMS DEVELOPED AND IDENTIFIED AS RESULT OF THE TRIALS
NECESSITATES AN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS
10,000.

3. THE ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:
A. WATER SCOOP FOR ONAN AUXILIARY GENERATOR.
COOLING WATER PUMP IMPELLORS BURNED OUT BECAUSE OF WATER
STARVATION CAUSED BY MATERIAL IN HEAVILY CONTAMINATED
WATERS BLOCKING INTAKE. IT IS NECESSARY TO ADD WATER SCOOP
WITH SCREEN. CONTRACT SERVICES TO BE UTILIZED.
B. HAND TOOLS FOR ALL BOATS. COST DOLS 550/BOAT.
REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN BOATS IN REMOTE LOCATIONS AND AT SEA.
TO BE PROCURED LOCALLY. INTEND TO PURCHASE US MANUFACTURED
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TOOLS, INDESTRO COMPANY AND RIDGED COMPANY. REQUEST
APPROPRIATE ORIGIN/SOURCE WAIVER.
C. MOTOROLA DISTRIBUTOR TO CHECK RADIOS ON ALL CRAFT FOR PROPER
ALIGNMENT. CONTRACT SERVICE WILL BE UTILIZED IF SERVICE NOT
COVERED BY WARRANTY.
D. REPLACE BATTERIES ON ALL BOATS. BATTERIES WILL NOT HOLD CHARGE
DUE TO ABUSE AND NEGLECT DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE. UNSUITABLE

FOR USE AT THIS TIME. PLAN TO PURCHASE LOCALLY, PROPER U.S. MANUFACTURED DELCO OR EQUIVALENT BATTERIES AS REPLACEMENT. REQUEST APPROPRIATE ORIGIN/SOURCE WAIVER.

E. AIR SCOOPS NEEDED ON PILOT HOUSE OF ALL BOATS. TRIALS HAVE PROVED THAT THERE IS INSUFFICIENT FRESH AIR INTAKE TO PILOT HOUSE. SIMPLE MODIFICATION WILL RELIEVE PROBLEM FOR SMOOTH WATER OPERATION. CONTRACT SERVICE WILL BE UTILIZED TO MAKE MODIFICATION.

F. RELOCATE LIFE RAFTS FROM BEHIND FLYING BRIDGE STATION TO PORT RAIL ALONG MAIN DECK IN ORDER THAT AREA CAN BE CLEARED FOR INSTALLATION OF OUTSIDE BOTTLED GAS, COOKING STOVE; AND

G. INSTALL FRAME WORK FOR OUTSIDE TABLE TOP, 2 BURNER BOTTLED GAS, STOVE AND SMALL AWNING OVER STOVE. THESE CHANGES NEEDED BECAUSE OF INADEQUACY OF 24V. D.C. STOVE PROVIDED. A BOTTLED GAS BURNING STOVE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY RTG. SAFETY PROHIBITS USE OF BOTTLED GAS BELOW DECKS. CONTRACT SERVICES TO BE UTILIZED FOR THIS ITEM AND ITEM F.

H. REPLACE BROKEN DOOR DOGS (LATCHES) FOR WATERTIGHT DOORS BROKEN BY INEXPERIENCED THAI CREWMEMBER ATTEMPTING TO FREE THEM AFTER SEIZING DURING SHIPMENT. THEY MUST BE REPLACED TO MAINTAIN WATERTIGHT INTEGRITY OF THE CRAFT. LOCAL PROCUREMENT WILL BE UTILIZED REQUEST ORIGIN/SOURCE WAIVER.

4. ABOVE ITEMS ARE URGENTLY REQUIRED, REQUEST APPROPRIATE ORIGIN AND/OR SOURCE WAIVERS BE TELEGRAPHICALLY PROVIDED AS ONE BOAT IS TO BE DISPATCH BY RTG CUSTOMS TO ANDAMAN SEA ON AUGUST 1, 1978 TO UNCLASSIFIED

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RELIEVE LARGER BOAT PRESENTLY ON STATION AND REQUIRING BOATYARD OVERHAUL.

5. REQUEST S/NM ISSUE APPROPRIATE PIO FOR CONTRACT SERVICES, SPECIFICATION TO BE PROVIDED; AND PROCUREMENT OF TOOLS AND BATTERIES WITH EMBASSY AS AUTHORIZED AGENT TO PROCURE SERVICES AND COMMODITIES LOCALLY. EMBASSY INFORMED THERE MAY BE SUFFICIENT FUNDS IN BOAT ACQUISITION PIO/C 60027 WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO FUND NEEDED PIO'S. IF ABOVE PROCEDURE NOT PROPER OR ACCEPTABLE ADVISE DESIRED PROCEDURE. EMBASSY ATTEMPTING TO MEET AUGUST 1, 1978 DEADLINE ON THE ONE BOAT SCHEDULED TO DEPART BANGKOK FOR ADAMAN SEA. O'DONOHUE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BANGKO21316
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780308-0020
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780711/aaaaajic.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cc7c566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SNM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1860432
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM: CUSTOMS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
TAGS: SNAR, TH
To: STATE TRSY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cc7c566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014